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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

Summary No. 6

April 18, 1942

DELAWARE (April 1).--Work with rural women stresses home gardens, better nutrition, participation in community defense activities. One home demonstration club group entirely mans one airplane-spotting post. Other women's clubs assuming similar responsibilities.

Subject-matter meetings being held throughout State on food production. Extension representatives met with fertilizer manufacturers to study revision present fertilizer recommendations and curtailment number of grades. Workers traveling together as much as possible and calls being grouped. Plans under way for developing rural fire-protection groups, increasing number local leaders, and supplying information on farm and home blackouts.

4-H Club groups stressing farm family gardens and improved nutrition. Garden seeds provided by a service club distributed. Most clubs conducting paper and scrap collection.

Extension entomologist continuing leadership in mosquito-control projects around Army posts.

Series dairy, garden, poultry letters distributed. News stories stressing food production, and radio transcriptions made and broadcast. Special spray note service to fruit and vegetable producers begun.

HAWAII (April 8).--Extension director and four specialists assigned to Office of the Military Governor continue to carry on their special activities. Extension horticulturist just completed report to Governor setting forth quantities seed required to assure public safety of 400,000 civilians for 3 years, in case Hawaii blocked off from supply sources. Recommendations also given on proper storage reserve seed supply.

Work of extension agents in recent weeks covered following phases: Organization work in pooling trucking facilities for transportation farm produce to market centers; distribution gasoline coupons; seed and feed rationing and distribution; swine and truck crops survey; advisory work with food production committees of OCD; assistance farmers in rice production and milling; educational work in poultry feeding; collection livestock census data for Military Governor; informing farmers on boats available for shipment produce; sales control work of insecticides and chemicals; assisting OCD in development plan to determine feed requirements dairy cattle, poultry, swine, and on matters of price control; assisting farmers procurement animal

feed; assisting with project for growing seedlings for community distribution; studies of plans and suggestions for establishment marketing centers; inspecting range land to determine pasture needs and herd improvement.

Workers have conferred with Army officials on feed supplies on hand, vegetable production progress. Regular weekly inspection made of vegetables consigned for Army use. Assistance given Army units in development vegetable gardens. Assistance in problems related to collection of garbage from Army camps and distribution to swine raisers.

INDIANA (April 9).--Leader training Victory Garden meetings held 81 counties with 2,690 attending. 120,000 Family Food Charts, 105,700 The Family Garden Leaflet furnished to counties. "Hoosier Victory Garden" window stickers furnished families enrolling.

66 dairy management schools held with attendance 7,062. Poultry campaign along two lines - hatchery project and leader-training schools. 19 district meetings of hatcherymen held; 237 attending. "Victory Flock Chick Livability" cards providing for mortality records, distributed to farmers. Poultry leader-training meetings in 79 counties; 39 counties held regular swine schools with 3,231 attending. In other 50 counties special swine meetings held with 1,623 attending.

Farm machinery repair schools held in each county with attendance 14,667. Series of pictures shown on screen to demonstrate adjustment farm machinery, replacement worn parts. Farm machinery repair posters distributed. Dealers report large increase in orders for repairs and parts.

Scrap metal collection in progress with some counties reporting as much as 500 tons scrap sold.

Stressing fire prevention in forests. Meetings held relating production fence posts for use during period wartime metal scarcity.

4-H Club members urged to enroll in garden and poultry projects, with special emphasis on food preservation by girls.

MINNESOTA (April 8).--"Feeding the Family for Health, Morale, and Victory" largest single extension program spring months. More than 7,200 leaders participated in training meetings, representing 4,000 groups, or a total of 125,000 rural families. Series Food-for-Freedom meetings in dairy, poultry, and swine production neared completion March. Local leaders trained by extension specialists at county meetings are taking production teaching to their neighbors.

Leader-training schools in Garden-for-Victory program. Covered entire State, with 4,000 leaders, representing wide variety local organizations attending. All material for rural school gardening campaign supplied by Extension, and agents and specialists assist in training rural school teachers. Working with AAA and SCS in furnishing local soil inventories.

urging closer coordination soils work with general farm management, and stepping up of program for better pastures and grass crops. Need for expansion oil crops, flax, and soybeans stressed. Agents helping farmers get seed. Flax-cleaning demonstrations conducted in 16 counties. Dealers cooperating wholeheartedly machinery repair, clean-seed programs.

Extension information material includes printing and distribution pamphlets such as Know Your Food Needs, Health From the Farm, Garden for Victory, Grow Greens for Health, Vegetable Garden Insects and Their Control, Vegetable Gardening. Weekly garden column run in 164 newspapers. Wise food buying discussed in series interviews, "Foods and Prices," in daily radio program. Extension and AMA furnishing daily reports on vegetables and fruits to newspapers and radio stations. 4-H Victory program stresses gardening as chief project, asking for garden in every 4-H family of State.

MISSOURI (April 1).--Enrollment Food-for-Home program, 88 counties, 39,124 families, anticipate total 50,000. Timely garden subject-matter sent each week to 8,552 garden leaders, vocational teachers, and organizations. Two garden circulars distributed in large numbers, supplemented by 20,000 vegetable planting calendars. Tomato improvement program being taken to growers, canners. Soil conservation leader-training schools completed 7 counties with 165 leaders trained. 100,000 illustrated folders, 30,000 circulars on good land use practices distributed. In 25 counties, 8 extension specialists and 7 SCS technicians assisted in 1-day training schools to increase contour farming.

Meetings held in 12 apple- and peach-producing areas on adapting fruit production to wartime conditions. Six general dairy goals, other dairy meetings held. Two short course schools for cheese makers and milk haulers with attendance 233. Plans for solving marketing surplus eggs in 6-county area developed.

Committee 8 extension specialists set up to study marketing problems by commodities. Methods handling increased production milk, eggs, and other farm products with a minimum waste and spoilage discussed with operators 30 exchanges Missouri Farmers' Association at State school for cooperatives. Held three meetings with wool marketing organizations on price ceiling. Nutrition program going forward in all counties. All phases of home demonstration program reviewed and placed on entirely wartime problems. Leader-training meetings held. Farm-machinery care and repair schools continued, 102 counties reporting 2,526 meetings with attendance 48,005.

PENNSYLVANIA (April 11).--Extension representatives meet regularly with State War Board and county workers attend meetings County War Boards to make their programs known to farmers.

In Victory Garden program 100,000 leaflets on garden vegetable production prepared and distributed through local Victory Garden committees. Assistance given committees in organizing work and arranging proper supervision. Nutrition phase Victory Gardens emphasized, with more than 1,500 meetings held.

Cooperating with AAA in district meetings committeemen. By request extension speakers attended all meetings for discussion soybean production. Plans made for demonstrations, meetings, news article to inform farmers on production, harvesting, marketing.

Poultry producers given specially prepared printed material on efficient production; Farm Security clients included. Special training given 19 county workers in care and adjustment farm machinery and such workers holding demonstrations and meetings for farmers; schools for employees farm machinery dealers held.

Farmers informed on rationing program as it affects them. Need for soil conservation stressed. Active cooperation given local Defense councils. Series leaflets being prepared for discussion groups.

4-H Club program organized on wartime basis.

SOUTH DAKOTA (March 31).--In Victory Garden campaign 25 counties report complete organization of county and community committees. In number unorganized counties 4-H Club leaders, AAA community committeemen, home demonstration club leaders used for garden leadership. Extension workers discussing garden program in all types meetings participated in.

Cooperated with County War Boards, 43 counties, held 382 community meetings, attendance 22,239. Variety subjects closely related to war effort discussed.

Training schools in nutrition for home demonstration club leaders and leaders other groups held throughout State.

Series tractor schools for women and girls planned to discuss appropriate and safe work clothes for women and girls for such work, with exhibit of suitable work clothes to be shown.

In cooperation Public Health nurses, Red Cross, WPA, PTA, a total of 24 meetings held for discussion home health, accident prevention, and first aid.

Publications include Milk for Victory, Sorghum Production in South Dakota, Lamb and Wool Production, The Farm Garden.